

for gift to MWA

PROCLAMATION

BY ALEXANDER RAMSEY,

Governor of the State of Minnesota.

1861

IN accordance with usage, I respectfully recommend to the people of this State, that THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF THE PRESENT MONTH OF NOVEMBER, be set apart and observed as a day of solemn thanksgiving to Almighty God, the Giver of all good;

That, though our sins be many, He has not ceased His merciful dispensations towards us;

That He has "visited the earth, and watered the ridges thereof abundantly, and made it soft with showers, and blessed the springing thereof, and crowned the year with His goodness," so that "the fields drop fatness, and the pastures are clothed with flocks, and the valleys, also, are covered with corn;"

That He has spared us from pestilence and famine, and preserved this State in peace and health, and in due allegiance and loyal devotion to the Government of these United States;

That while in other portions of the Confederacy the dreadful visitations of civil war are fulfilling the penalty of an impious rebellion against His ordinances and the fundamental covenants of human society, the Angel of Peace still sits at our gates, and our children sleep secure in quiet and prosperous homes, far from the din of the battle which is to decide their destiny.

And let us thank Him, too, that He has not deserted our beloved country in the day of her sore calamity, but that already his bow of promise, radiant with celestial omens of victory, spans the tempest which darkens the land;

That, to this end, he has united the hearts and arrayed the invincible legions of her people around her, to defend the cause of good government and free institutions, and, by the sacrificial blood of her heroes, has consecrated anew the cause of country and liberty in the affections of her children and in the sympathies and aspirations of the civilized and Christian world;

And, finally, with the incense of thank-offering, let the prayer go up from every altar, that God may throw the shield of his mercy around the brave soldiers who have gone from our midst to do battle for the right,—that he may grant us a successful issue out of all our trials,—and that this wicked rebellion may terminate in the triumph of the just authority of the laws, and in the re-establishment of civil order and peace throughout a re-united and prosperous country, to the glory and honor of His name.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the city of St. Paul, this eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

ALEXANDER RAMSEY.

By the Governor,

JAMES H. BAKER,

SECRETARY OF STATE.

